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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MN CYCLING CENTER PROPOSES SHOREHAM YARDS DEVELOPMENT

World Class Indoor Velodrome and Multi-Purpose Center Planned for Northeast Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS - The [MN Cycling Center](#) today announced its vision to build an indoor velodrome and multi-purpose entertainment and education destination at the Shoreham Yards site in Northeast Minneapolis at 29th Avenue and Central Avenue NE. This multi-purpose facility will be designed to serve as a significant community hub, providing cycling programs for all ages and abilities, commuter support amenities and a home for events of all types.

The proposed Center will be anchored by an indoor, world-class bicycle racing track, an outdoor BMX race track and street level retail space. The facility will include seating for up to 3,000 concert or event attendees. In addition to the outdoor BMX facility, the Shoreham Yards location will include an outdoor plaza in the shadow of the historic Shoreham Yards roundhouse.

“We are thrilled to launch our effort to create a national cycling destination at Shoreham Yards in the heart of Northeast Minneapolis,” said Jason Lardy, MN Cycling Center President. “Cycling continues to grow as a recreational activity in Minnesota and track racing is extremely popular around the world. This center, when completed, will appeal to local residents and draw international audiences to events throughout the year.”

The non-profit MN Cycling Center will provide after-school academic and athletic programs to offer a unique recreational and educational outlet for kids. The Center will also create a perfect venue for concerts, non-cycling sporting events and expos. The facility will also offer space for sports leagues and local bicycle racing and training.

Both rail transportation and cycling have a long history in Minnesota. The Shoreham Yards has been a major rail transportation hub since the dawn of the 20th century. At the same time, Minneapolis was a hotbed of bicycle racing and a regular stop on the international racing circuit.

“The shared history of rail transportation and cycling will be showcased in the MN Cycling Center,” said Lardy. “We love the connection between these two important parts of Minneapolis history.”

The plaza will preserve elements of the walls and floor of much of the existing roundhouse structure. The existing repair shed will be preserved and renovated to create space for light industrial or other commercial activity in keeping with the feeling of the entire complex.

The proposed site, adjacent to Central Avenue and the historic Roundhouse, has long been considered key to the revitalization of Central Avenue. The area is designated in the City of Minneapolis' comprehensive plan as an Industrial Employment District, guided for employment growth.

"The most intriguing and attractive element of this proposal is that it not only encompasses employment, but also education, community benefit, and regional, if not national, recognition," said 1st Ward Council Member Kevin Reich.

The proposed MN Cycling Center hopes for completion of the site by 2017.

More information about the MN Cycling Center can be found at <http://www.mncyclingcenter.org>.

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